

(12) United States Patent Medeiros et al.

(10) Patent No.: US 6,465,124 B1

(45) Date of Patent: Oct. 15, 2002

(54) MAGNESIUM ANODE, SEAWATER/ACID/ CATHOLYTE ELECTROLYTE UTILIZING A PALLADIUM AND IRIDIUM CARBON PAPER CATHODE ELECTROCHEMICAL SYSTEM

(75) Inventors: Maria G. Medeiros, Bristol; Eric G.

(US)

(56) References Cited

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

(58) Field of Search 429/101, 105

5,445,905 A * 8/1995 Marsh et al. 429/105

* cited by examiner

Primary Examiner—Carol Chancy Assistant Examiner—Dah-Wei Yuan

(74) Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Michael J. McGowan;

Prithvi C. Lall; Michael F. Oglo

(57) ABSTRACT

(73) Assignee: The United States of America as represented by the Secretary of the Navy, Washington, DC (US)

Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 68 days.

Dow, Barrington, both of RI (US); Russell R. Bessette, Mattapoisett, MA

(21) Appl. No.: 09/632,012(22) Filed: Jul. 28, 2000

(*) Notice:

The present invention relates to an improved magnesium semi-fuel cell which has a magnesium anode, a seawater/catholyte electrolyte, preferably containing acid to solubilize solid precipitates, and an electrocatalyst composed of palladium and iridium catalyzed onto carbon paper. The acid added to the electrolyte is preferably selected from the group consisting of sulfuric acid, hydrochloric acid, phosphoric acid, acetic acid, and mixtures thereof.

7 Claims, 2 Drawing Sheets

